



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
CHARLESTON DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS
69-A Hagood Avenue
CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA 29403-5107

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY

**Draft Environmental Impact Statement
Proposed Marine Container Terminal
at the Charleston Naval Complex
North Charleston, South Carolina**

The Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Proposed Marine Container Terminal at the Charleston Naval Complex is available for public comment. The 60-day comment period starts on the publication of the Notice of Availability in the Federal Register on October 21, 2005 and ends on December 19, 2005, unless an extension is requested and granted in writing.

Project Description

The Proposed Project consists of the development of a marine container terminal at the Charleston Naval Complex on the Cooper River in North Charleston, Charleston County, South Carolina. The proposed wharf would be 3,510 feet long, 150 feet wide, and 18 feet above MLW. Six cranes would be positioned along the wharf to service 3 berths capable of docking post-Panamax ships. The majority of the 272.5-acre terminal would be paved and be used for processing and storing containers, support facilities, and stormwater management facilities.

The construction and operation of the facility would require the placement of fill material in 10.4 acres of wetlands and the excavation and backfilling of 54.5 acres of open water. In addition, it would be necessary to dredge 4.7 million cubic yards of aquatic sediment to construct the berthing area, access channel and turning basin. The dredged material would be disposed in an upland Confined Disposal Facility located at the southern end of Daniel Island. The SCSPA has also proposed to install a sediment suspension system on the wharf structure that would minimize the need for maintenance dredging.

The proposed marine container terminal is expected to handle approximately 1.4 million twenty-foot equivalent units per year at full capacity in 2025. The South Carolina State Ports Authority is the permit applicant for the proposed project.

Draft Environmental Impact Statement

The Draft EIS will be available on October 17, 2005, for public review and comment online at www.PortEIS.com, or by request on compact disc. Due to the high cost of printing the document, hard copies will be available for public review at the following locations:

Sterett Hall
Building #180
Charleston Naval Complex
North Charleston, South Carolina 29405

City of North Charleston
4900 Lacross Road
North Charleston, South Carolina 29406

Charleston County Library
Cooper River Memorial
3503 Rivers Avenue
Charleston, South Carolina 29405

City of Charleston
32 Ann Street
Charleston, South Carolina 29403

Charleston County Library
Main Branch
68 Calhoun Street
Charleston, South Carolina 29401

Charleston County Library
John L. Dart
1067 King Street
Charleston, South Carolina 29403

Town of Mount Pleasant
100 Ann Edwards Lane
Mount Pleasant, South Carolina 29464

Mount Pleasant Regional Library
1133 Mathis Ferry Road
Mount Pleasant, South Carolina 29464

Charleston City Fire Station 18
235 Seven Farms Drive
Daniel Island, South Carolina 29492

Dorchester County Library
76 Old Trolley Road
Summerville, South Carolina 29485

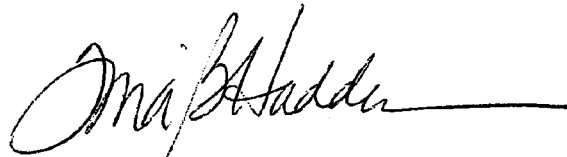
Otranto Road Regional Library
2261 Otranto Road
North Charleston, South Carolina 29406

An informal public workshop will be held on Tuesday, November 1, 2005 at Sterett Hall Auditorium from 4:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. to discuss information found in the draft EIS. Comments on the draft EIS should be submitted to the Corps of Engineers in one of following ways:

Letters addressed to:
Mr. Nathaniel I. Ball, Project Manager
Charleston District, Corps of Engineers
69A Hagood Avenue
Charleston, South Carolina 29403

Project Website: www.PortEIS.com
Project Hotline: 843-971-7970
Public Hearing: Thursday, November 17, 2005

Please direct your request for copies of the Draft EIS, extension of comment period, or questions concerning this public notice to the Project Manager, Mr. Nathaniel I. Ball at (843) 329-8044 or toll free at 1-866-329-8187.



Tina B. Hadden
Chief, Regulatory Division
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers